

Method of Treating Leukemia with a Combination of Suberoylanilide Hydromaxic Acid and Imatinib Mesylate

Abstract

A method for inducing apoptosis, or increasing the rate or extent of apoptosis, in target cells. The method comprises the steps of contacting the cancer cells with an apoptosis-inducing amount of a tyrosine kinase inhibitor, imatinib mesylate, and a histone deacetylase inhibitor, Suberoylanilide Hydromaxic Acid (SAHA). The method is applicable to ameliorating the resistance of the accelerated and blast phases of CML (CML-BC) to imatinib mesylate.